



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

Judith A. Monroe, M.D.
State Health Commissioner

Indiana State Department of Health

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DATE: April 2, 2009

TO: All Local Health Departments
Attn: Chief Food Specialist

FROM: A. Scott Gilliam, MBA, CP-FS
Manager, Food Protection Program
Vonda S. Allen for A. Scott Gilliam

SUBJECT: Union International Food Co. - Lian How Brand Spices and Uncle Chen's Brand White Pepper and Black Pepper Recall

SUGGESTED ACTION: Class unidentified; Due to Salmonella; Recommend notification of affected stores via phone, fax or e-mail.

From the information provided by FDA, the recalled products were distributed in Indiana. Union International Food Co. of Union City, CA is recalling 15-pound. and smaller size packages of the Lian How brand spices (a complete list of the products and sizes is attached) and Uncle Chen brand white pepper & black pepper (whole and ground) in 5oz. retail containers, because it has the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella*. Detail information is not available at this time. In addition, if any recalled product is found, please notify this office at 317-233-7360.

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Union International Food Co. is Recalling Lian How Brand Spices and Uncle Chen's Brand White Pepper and Black Pepper in 5oz. Retail Containers Because of a Possible Health Risk

Contact:
Union International Food Co.
510-471-6799

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- March 30, 2009 -- Union International Food Co. of Union City, CA is recalling 15-pound. and smaller size packages of the Lian How brand spices (a complete list of the products and sizes is attached) and Uncle Chen brand white pepper & black pepper (whole and ground) in 5oz. retail containers, because it has the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella*, an organism that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with *Salmonella* often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, infection with *Salmonella* can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections (i.e., infected aneurysms), endocarditis and arthritis.

Officials investigating a multi-state *Salmonella* outbreak isolated *Salmonella* from an open container of Lian How White Pepper, which was found at a restaurant where some outbreak victims ate. Union International Food Co. is making every possible effort to protect our customers and the consuming public. We have discussed the matter with the California Department of Public Health and agreed to initiate a recall.

The Lian How brand spices are distributed in the states of California, Oregon and Washington to wholesalers, distributors, restaurant suppliers and restaurants. The Lian How brand products are packaged in 10 or 15lbs. boxes with plastic liners, 5-pound plastic jars or 5-pound plastic bags (and 2.2 pound foil bags of Wasabi powder). The Lian How brand products are not generally sold directly to the retail consumer. The Uncle Chen brand white & black pepper products (whole or ground) are sold at retail in 5oz. containers. **Only the products on the attached list are included in this recall.**

Union International Foods Company has ceased the production and distribution of these products as the FDA, California Department of Public Health and Union International Foods Co. continue the investigation as to nature and full extent of this potential contamination.

Wholesalers & Distributors of these products are instructed to immediately place the recalled merchandise on hold and immediately withdraw any product from sale or distribution. Wholesalers and Distributors must immediately alert their customers of the recall and arrange for the return to Union International Foods Co. of the recalled goods. Contact your usual Union International Foods Co. representative to arrange for return of the recalled goods. End users and consumers are instructed to immediately suspend use of the products in their possession and either return them to the place of purchase for a full refund or dispose of them in the trash.

For updated information or questions about the ongoing investigation, contact the **Union International Food Company** information line at 510-471-6799 or our website www.ufunionfood.com. Union International Food Co., 33035 Transit Avenue, Union City, CA 94587.

Brand Name : Lian How Brand		BOX	Plastic JAR	Plastic BAG
輕辣椒粉	PAPRIKA	10 LB	6 × 5 LB	10 × 5 LB
重辣椒粉	CAYENNE	10 LB	6 × 5 LB	10 × 5 LB
大蒜碎	CHOPPED GARLIC	15 LB	6 × 5 LB	
細蒜碎	MINCED GARLIC	15 LB	6 × 5 LB	
大蒜粉	GRANULE GARLIC	15 LB	6 × 5 LB	10 × 5 LB
細蒜粉	GARLIC POWDER	15 LB	6 × 5 LB	10 × 5 LB
洋蔥碎	CHOPPED ONION		6 × 4 LB	
洋蔥粉	ONION POWDER		6 × 5 LB	
白胡椒仔	WHOLE WHITE PEPPER	10 LB	6 × 5 LB	10 × 5 LB
白胡椒粉	GROUND WHITE PEPPER	10 LB	6 × 5 LB	10 × 5 LB
黑胡椒仔	WHOLE BLACK PEPPER		6 × 5 LB	
黑胡椒粉	GROUND BLACK PEPPER	10 LB	6 × 5 LB	10 × 5 LB
咖哩粉	CURRY POWDER	10 LB	6 × 5 LB	10 × 5 LB

芥菜粉	MUSTARD POWDER	10 LB	6 × 5 LB	10 × 5 LB
日本芥菜粉	WASABI POWDER			10 × 2.2 LB 8 × 5 LB
Brand Name : Uncle Chen brand		BOX	Plastic JAR	Plastic BAG
白胡椒仔	WHOLE WHITE PEPPER		24x5 OZ.	
白胡椒粉	GROUND WHITE PEPPER		24x5 OZ.	
黑胡椒仔	WHOLE BLACK PEPPER		24x5 OZ.	
黑胡椒粉	GROUND BLACK PEPPER		24x5 OZ.	

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